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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 49th and 58th meetings, on 10 May and 27 June 2007. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.49 and 58).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 (A/61/672);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008 (A/61/767 and Corr.1);

(c) Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/852/Add.11).

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II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.51

4. At its 58th meeting, on 27 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/61/L.51), submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of the Netherlands.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.51 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 regarding, respectively, the deployment to the region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of military liaison personnel and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1756 (2007) of 15 May 2007, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission until 31 December 2007,

Recalling also its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000 on the financing of the Mission and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 60/121 B of 30 June 2006,

Recalling further its resolution 58/315 of 1 July 2004,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the financial resources necessary to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to entrust the Head of Mission with the task of formulating future budget proposals in full accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 59/296 of 22 June 2005, 60/266 of 30 June 2006 and 61/__ of __ June 2007,[3] as well as other relevant resolutions;

2. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 31 March 2007, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 243.4 million United

[1] A/61/672 and A/61/767 and Corr.1.

[2] A/61/852/Add.11.

[3] See A/C.5/61/L.49.

States dollars, representing some 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-six Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

4. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

5. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

6. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

7. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

8. *Acknowledges with appreciation* that the use of the logistics hub in Entebbe, Uganda, has been cost-effective and has resulted in savings for the United Nations, and welcomes the expansion of the logistics hub to provide logistical support to peacekeeping operations in the region and to further contribute to their enhanced efficiency and responsiveness;

9. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

10. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

11. *Decides* to establish the following posts: Fire Chief (Field Service) in the Security and Safety Section; Human Resources Officer (P-3) in the Human Resources Section; Human Resources Officer (Field Service) in the Aviation Section; and Warehouse Supervisor (Field Service) in the Property Management Section;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of the relevant provisions of its resolutions 59/296, 60/266 and 61/__;[3]

13. *Recalls* paragraph 13 of its resolution 60/121 B, and reiterates, in view of the importance of ensuring coordination and collaboration of efforts with the United Nations agencies and programmes, its request that the Secretary-General report to the General Assembly on the progress made in the development of a collaboration

framework and efforts towards developing an integrated workplan in the context of his budget submission at its sixty-second session;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the provision of material support for joint operations with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is duly reflected in the budget proposals;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006;[4]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008

18. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 1,166,721,000 dollars for the period from 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008, inclusive of 1,112,739,500 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 46,427,000 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 7,554,500 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy;

Financing of the appropriation

19. *Decides also* to apportion among Member States the amount of 583,360,500 dollars for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2007, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243 of 22 December 2006, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2007, as set out in its resolution 61/237 of 22 December 2006;

20. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 19 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 13,113,800 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 10,494,550 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 2,362,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 256,350 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

21. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 583,360,500 dollars for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2008 at a monthly rate of 97,226,750 dollars, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 61/243, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2008, as set out in its resolution 61/237, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

[4] A/61/672.

22. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 21 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 13,113,800 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 10,494,550 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 2,362,900 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 256,350 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

23. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 19 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 137,022,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006, in accordance with the levels updated in General Assembly resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003;

24. *Decides also* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 137,022,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 23 above;

25. *Decides further* that the decrease of 4,215,900 dollars in the estimated staff assessment income in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2006 shall be set off against the credits from the amount of 137,022,500 dollars referred to in paragraphs 23 and 24 above;

26. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

27. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

28. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".